

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy Study Committee to study the creation of a database listing persons convicted of crimes where the victims are individuals with developmental disabilities.

1           Whereas, People with developmental disabilities are at higher risk of victimization than  
2 others;

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4           Whereas, The Arc of the United States reports in a document entitled "People with  
5 Intellectual Disabilities and Sexual Violence" that "Any type of disability appears to contribute to  
6 higher risk of victimization but intellectual disabilities, communication disorders, and behavioral  
7 disorders appear to contribute to very high levels of risk, and having multiple disabilities (e.g.,  
8 intellectual disabilities and behavior disorders) results in even higher risk levels (Sullivan &  
9 Knutson, 2000)";

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11           Whereas, People with developmental disabilities are frequently less capable of informing  
12 those who love and care for them that they have been victimized;

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14           Whereas, A comprehensive database organizing persons convicted of crimes against people  
15 with developmental disabilities would enable law enforcement to better apprehend, convict, and  
16 incarcerate offenders when victims are less able to assist them;

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18           Whereas, The creation of such a registry may also lessen the likelihood of registrants  
19 committing more offenses since they may perceive that the authorities' knowledge of their identities,  
20 locations, and past offenses reduces the chances that they can avoid detection and apprehension if  
21 they reoffend; and

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23           Whereas, The members of the Commission on Developmental Disabilities believe that there  
24 is a need for the development of a registry listing persons convicted of crimes against persons with  
25 developmental disabilities: Therefore,

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28           SECTION 1. That the Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy Study Committee should study  
29 the creation of a database listing persons convicted of crimes where the victims are individuals with  
30 developmental disabilities.